

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

11 October 2006

Mr. Michael Baney
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-2007-00018 / Archive No. 20061826CIA281

Dear Mr. Baney:

The office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator has received your 2 October 2006 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for **all documents from 1980 to the present date, relating in whole or in part to the Colombian paramilitary and drug trafficker José Vicente Castaño Gil, and all documents on the Bloque Centauros or Centauros Bloc faction of the AUC that he leads.**

We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding with us so that we can identify it easily.

We have completed a thorough review of your request and have determined, in accordance with section 3.6(a) of Executive Order 12958, as amended, that the CIA can neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to your request. The fact of the existence or nonexistence of requested records is properly classified and is intelligence sources and methods information that is protected from disclosure by section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949. Therefore, the Agency has denied your request pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). I have enclosed an explanation of these exemptions for your reference and retention.

CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator Scott Koch made this decision, which you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the date of this letter. You may include any additional information supporting your position or explaining why you think our initial decision is wrong.

Sincerely,

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

